

## NOTES AND NEWS

Several important phytogeographic and floristic surveys of definite areas in Western North America are in progress.

Among these should be mentioned the intensive study of the Sonoran Desert being undertaken jointly by investigators at Dudley Herbarium of Stanford University and the Desert Laboratory of Carnegie Institution at Tucson, Arizona. The area included in these investigations is the western portion of Sonora, southwestern Arizona, the Colorado Desert region of California and eastern and central Baja, California, reaching the Pacific Ocean only at Viscaïno Desert. Some 2500 species of flowering plants are thought to be included in this area.

Mr. Elmer I. Applegate, Honorary Curator of Dudley Herbarium, is engaged in preparing accounts of the floras of the following areas: Crater Lake National Park, Klamath County, Oregon; Oregon Caves National Monument, Josephine County, Oregon; Lava Beds National Monument, Modoc and Siskiyou counties, California.

Dr. Edward H. Graham, Carnegie Institution Museum, Pittsburgh, has been studying since 1931 the flora of the Uinta Basin in northeastern Utah and northwestern Colorado. He has just completed his third season in the field. This is one of the few large areas in arid Western America which remain, from the biological point of view, relatively unknown.

Dr. Harold St. John is pursuing his study of the flora of the Palouse Region in southeastern Washington and adjacent Idaho with the intent of providing an up-to-date account of this region which is approximately the same as that covered by Piper and Beattie's "Flora of Southeastern Washington and Adjacent Idaho," published in 1914 and long since out of print.

Dr. E. B. Copeland, Technical Adviser and Agricultural Botanist in Charge of the Economic Garden, Los Baños, Laguna, arrived in Berkeley from the Philippine Islands in June, 1935. For the next few months, he will continue research on the oriental pteridophytes at the University of California herbarium.

Dr. C. Leo Hitchcock of the Department of Botany, University of Montana, spent the summer months in research work at several botanical institutions of eastern United States. In September he spent a few days at the University of California herbarium at Berkeley.

Dr. Phillip A. Munz of the Department of Botany, Pomona College, Claremont, California, spent the greater part of the summer at Gray Herbarium, Harvard University in pursuance of his studies on the California flora.

Mr. John Wilkinson, Commonwealth Fund Fellow, has arrived in Berkeley, from Armstrong College, University of Durham, England. Mr. Wilkinson, who has been studying the genus *Salix* from a cyto-taxonomic viewpoint, will continue research at the University of California.

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, April 6, 1935. A field trip was taken to Big Basin in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The group met at 10:00 a. m. in Room 460, Physiology Building, Stanford University, and proceeded by automobile to Big Basin, arriving for lunch at about noon. Attendance was small on account of rain. However, a larger number arrived for dinner at Students' Union, Stanford University, and the evening lecture, Room 460, Physiology Building, was well attended. Dr. Ira L. Wiggins of Stanford University spoke on "Botanizing in Sonora." This account of a recent field trip was illustrated. President George J. Peirce occupied the chair. No business was transacted.

Thursday, October 17, 1935. A meeting was held at 8:00 p. m. in Room 2093, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. The President, Dr. George J. Peirce, occupied the chair, introducing Professor G. W. Hendry of the Division of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley. Professor Hendry gave an illustrated lecture on "The Botanical Analysis of Adobe Bricks." The identification of the various grain and weed seeds found in adobes of known date of the Spanish-Californian period yields much information about the kinds of grain cultivated by the Spanish-Californians and also fixes the approximate dates of introduction of many alien plants which have become naturalized in California. About sixty-five members and guests attended the meeting. No business was transacted.

Thursday, November 21, 1935. A meeting was held at 8:00 p. m. in Room 2093, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. Professor Emanuel Fritz, Second Vice-President, occupied the chair, introducing the speaker, Professor W. F. Gericke, of the Division of Plant Nutrition, College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley. Professor Gericke spoke on "Crop Production in Liquid Media." The commercial possibilities of this method of water culture were demonstrated by comparing yields and cost of production with those of the usual soil culture method. Very convincing slides illustrated the lecture. About fifty-five members and guests attended the meeting. No business was transacted.—E. CRUM, Secretary.